

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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## Newsletter #52:

### What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hello everyone! I hope you all had a nice week. I've personally been playing catch up this entire week just preparing invoices, shipping coins and attempting to be a present mom to my two boys. Last week in New York was hectic but it was equally rewarding to see the fruits of my labor the last year and a half meet some success. It was the first year I was at the NY International as an independent dealer. I already signed up for a table for next year. Despite the high cost of the booth, hotel for a week and lots of expensive NY meals it was a good show for me. I met some of my customers in person and found a few more. Relationship building is extremely important in this business as trust is something that doesn't happen overnight. I value the trust that many of you put in me so going to trade shows to meet personally is high on my list.

A quick note on Sixbid and Numisbids first: There are many auctions on these two sites that I do not mention and I'd like to clarify why. It doesn't always mean that I don't like these auction houses. I suppose I want to simplify the process for my customers. This is part of the service I can provide to you. Being an independent dealer I am for no one auction house. So my opinion is not swayed by monetary gain. That said, it is just my opinion so don't feel like you shouldn't look at other auctions because I didn't mention it. Those of you that really know me understand that eye appeal is very important for me. Perhaps it is the photography but sometimes I avoid certain auction houses because the coins simply are not attractive to me. Again, just personal opinion. You can take it or leave it.

So here is what is happening this week:

### Solidus Literature Auction (Munich, Germany closes Jan 27)

There have been a lot of great numismatic books coming up in auction. I know, I've been participating! As many of you are aware I'm a strong advocate for "buying the book". In these days where a lot of books are being scanned for widespread use on the internet, there still are many that remain elusive to the majority of collectors. We saw

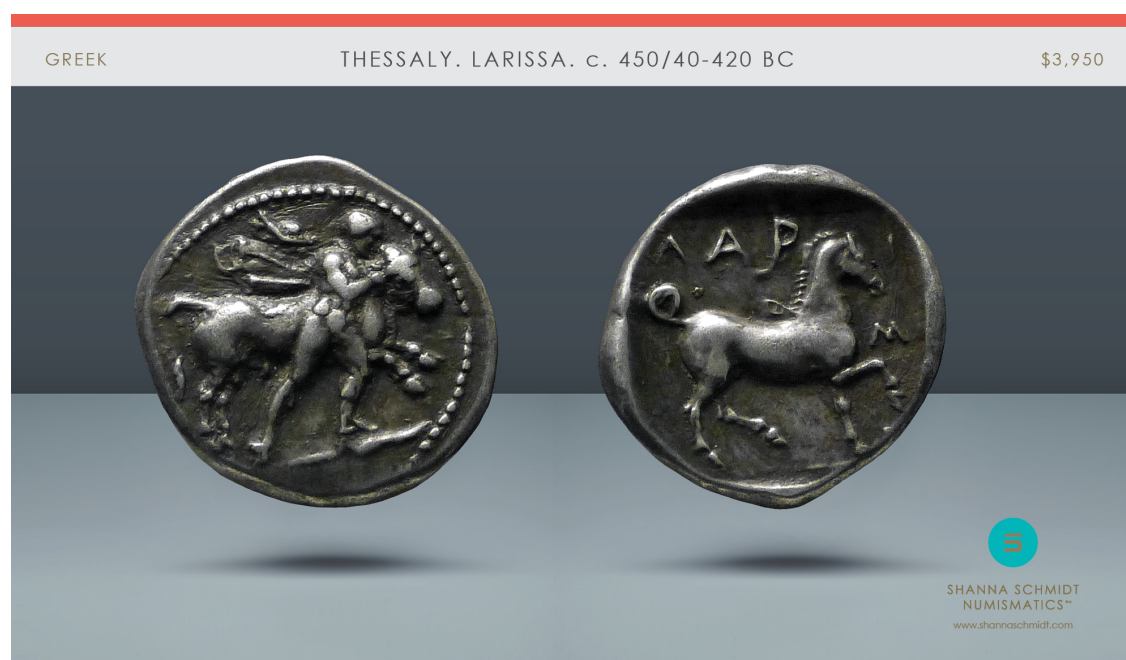
the recent sale of Greek numismatic literature in the NAC/Sovereign Rarities cooperative auction go for unbelievably high hammers. "Unbuyable" was a word a customer of mine used. Solidus has 795 lots of various numismatic literature rarities, many of which are long out of print. I plan to bid in it so let me know if you need my help.

#### **Naville Numismatics (associated with NAC) Auction 37 (London, England closes Jan 28)**

Naville has their 37th auction with 907 lots closing on January 28. Most of you are aware by now that Naville is affiliated with the auction powerhouse NAC. They even share office space. As NAC is strictly an auction house that does very little selling outside of their sales in October and May (typically) much of the lower tier material shows up here. This is not to say that it is not worthwhile material. Quite the contrary in fact. In the last few years there has been a barrage of Ex Clain Stefanelli and Ex Dattari material available. I usually participate in their auctions so if you have interest please do contact me.

#### **Chicago Coin Expo. (Chicago, IL Trade Show April 18-21)**

Many of you know that I was instrumental in the formation of the Chicago Coin Expo. Once I left HJB Ltd., my father's company, I no longer was involved. Through the generosity of Victor England I exhibited at the first show which took place in the Chicago Cultural Center. It was wonderful to see this show happen. Several of my fellow dealers opted out of taking a table at this year's show due to low customer turnout. I find it disappointing that a great location like Chicago doesn't have a great coin show. This is precisely why I am exhibiting in the show this year at the Palmer House Hotel in downtown Chicago. Heritage and Gemini will also host auctions at the show and there will be a lecture series as well. The event takes place from April 18-21 on the fourth floor of the hotel. I have postcards for \$5 off general admission at the door or \$15 off early bird passes. This offer is also available on the website at [www.coinexpo.org](http://www.coinexpo.org).



Coin of the Week <http://www.shannaschmidt.com/coin-of-the-week/>

**THESSALY. Larissa. c. 450/40-420 BC.**

AR Drachm, 6.11g (20mm, 6h). Thessalos, with petasos and chlamys hanging around neck, restraining bull charging to right / ΔΑΠΙ-Σ-A Bridled horse trotting to right.

*Pedigree: From the collection of W. F. Stoecklin, Amriswil, Switzerland, and from that of the Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Schlessinger 13, 4 February 1935, lot 805*

*Price: \$3,950*

*Larissa was an important city in ancient Greece. It is said that Achilles lived in Larissa and Homer mentions it in the Odyssey. The coinage is most known for the lovely obverse dies featuring a nymph that is certainly modelled after the goddess Arethusa on the contemporary coins from Syracuse. Other coins from the area show the hero Thessalos who was a son of Herakles. He wears a petasos, which is a type of floppy hat and chlamys, a cloak. A horse is typically shown on all coins of Larissa. The vast landscape of great plains made horse breeding a natural fit for the area and is consistently reflected on its coins.*

*This particular coin comes from the collection of the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. The Hermitage coin cabinet was formed by none other than Catherine the Great during her reign (1762-1796). Despite being one of the largest numismatic cabinets in the world, in 1935 a portion of the holdings were sold in the Felix Schlessinger auction in Germany. In fact, many of the prized art holdings were sold from 1930-1935 in order to purchase industrial machinery in the west to boost the industrialization of Russia. This coin was part of that group. Seeing the coin cabinet in St. Petersburg can be very difficult. I visited there more than 15 years ago and try as I might could not get in to see the collection. As I understand it the Augustus Sage Society (through the ANS) was able to view the collection a few years back which is welcome news to me. It is undoubtedly a wonderful experience!*

*References: BCD Thessaly II 372.9 (same dies)*

*Grade: Very complete and with lovely cabinet toning. EF*  
*gk1182*

If you are interested in this coin please email [shanna@shannaschmidt.com](mailto:shanna@shannaschmidt.com)

If you are interested in any other coins I have available please visit my website [www.shannaschmidt.com](http://www.shannaschmidt.com)

Until next week!  
Shanna

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